

News from the FPPC

California Fair Political Practices Commission
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FPPC Agenda Includes Family Gift Rules, Statement of Economic Interests Filing Requirements, Enforcement Cases

The Fair Political Practices Commission on Wednesday (July 12) will act to clarify rules relating to gifts to public officials' family members, consider financial disclosure filing requirements for certain officials at new agencies, and act on a number of enforcement cases and other matters.

The commission's regular monthly meeting begins at 9:45 a.m. in the FPPC's eighth-floor hearing room at 428 J St. (Fifth and J Streets) in Sacramento.

Items on Wednesday's meeting agenda include:

- Final approval of amendments to FPPC regulation 18944. The Political Reform Act places limits and disclosure requirements on gifts to many state and local public officials. In a previous formal opinion, the commission explored the issue of when a gift received by the spouse or dependent child of an official should be treated as a gift to the official under the Act. The proposed rule changes before the commission on Wednesday would further codify this opinion and provide clearer guidelines for determining whether a gift is truly intended for an official's family member or should be treated as a gift to the official. (See agenda item #11.)
- Discussion of proposed changes to FPPC regulation 18754. The Political Reform Act requires most state and local elected officeholders and certain public employees to disclose their financial interests in a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700). FPPC staff will present proposed amendments that would, among other things, simplify part of this process by exempting a governing board member of a new agency from filing another Form 700 if he or she is already subject to equal or greater disclosure requirements. (See agenda item #12.)

- A number of enforcement cases relating to campaign reporting violations, campaign bank account violations, campaign contribution violations, major donor reporting violations, and late contribution reporting violations. (See agenda items #3-10.)

The agenda and supporting memoranda and materials are posted on the FPPC's website at www.fppc.ca.gov. Just click on "Agendas" on the left side of the home page and go to "Current Agenda." The agenda is posted on the website 10 days before the meeting, and letters commenting on agenda items are also posted when received.

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